

Disabilities Subcommittee

Mayor's Commission on Disabilities

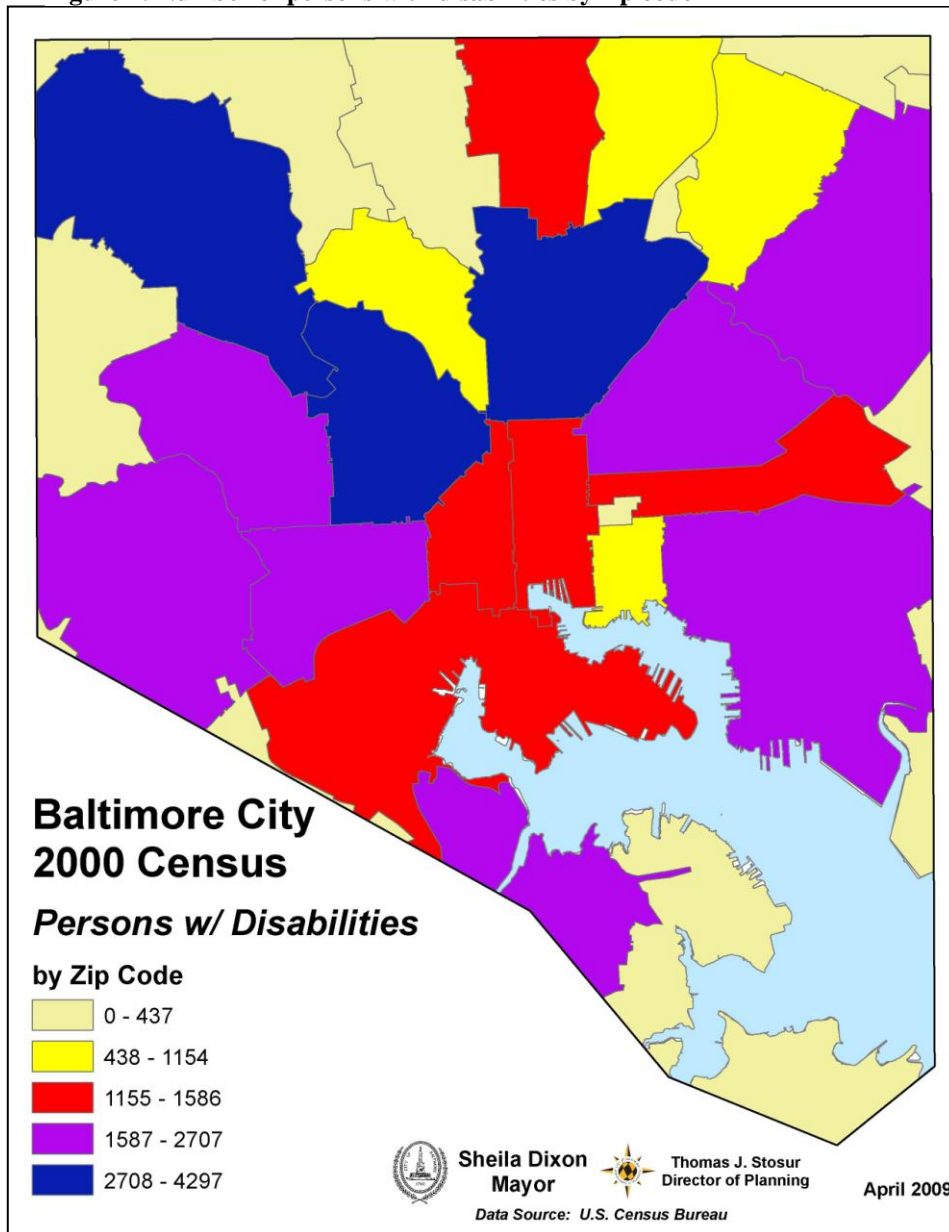
WHO

In the 2000 census, there were 162,044 people over the age of five with a disability¹. This means that nearly 25 percent of the population of Baltimore City has some type of disability, and therefore this population group is critical to the counting of the 2010 census. Individuals were classified as having a disability if any of the following three conditions was true:

- They were five years old and over and reported a long-lasting sensory, physical, mental or self-care disability.
- They were 16 years old and over and reported difficulty going outside the home because of a physical, mental or emotional condition lasting six months or more
- They were 16 to 64 years old and reported difficulty working at a job or business because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting six months or more.

Special forms will need to be available: large print forms for those who are sight impaired, and Braille forms for those who are blind. There will also be a TDD phone line available to assist the deaf and hard of hearing with the census form. The number is 866-783-2010

Figure 1: Number of persons with disabilities by zip code



¹ Disability status was not tabulated for persons in institutions, people in the Armed Forces, and people under 5 years old.

HOW

Outreach to persons with disabilities needs to ensure that information is accessible in a variety of formats as well as available in places that can provide assistance to persons with special needs.

Accessibility

- Materials to raise awareness should be in large print and/or in other formats that can be read by persons with disabilities

Availability

- Case workers and other service providers need to be trained on how to assist clients with filling out the forms as needed

WHEN

The Mayor's Commission on Disabilities meets on a monthly basis to discuss various issues within the community and is a valuable tool to provide materials and information regarding the census and its importance.

WHERE

In addition to the existing ADA-accessible QAC/Be Counted Sites around the City, the best location for a QAC site that will reach persons with disabilities as well as service providers would be at The League For Persons with Disabilities. They are located at 1111 East Cold Spring Lane. They serve a large population of persons with disabilities and have the capability to ensure correct and complete forms are available.

